

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 080078

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DACCA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING APRIL 19,
1974:

QUOTE: Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM REPORTS THAT THE SECRETARY
ASSURED THE INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, WHEN THEY MET IN NEW
YORK, OF THE RESUMPTION OF AMERICAN AID TO INDIA?

A. I HAVEN'T SEEN THE REPORT YOU'VE REFERRED TO. BUT IT
WOULD NOT SEEM TO ME NECESSARY TO ASSURE THE INDIANS IN
THIS MATTER, BECAUSE WE'VE ALREADY INDICATED OUR INTEREST
IN TALKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ABOUT A NEW AID
RELATIONSHIP.

Q. WELL, THE LAST TIME THIS QUESTION CAME UP IN THIS FORUM,
WE WERE TOLD THAT THE TALKS HAD NOT YET BEGUN. IS THAT
STILL THE CASE?

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PAGE 02 STATE 080078

A. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THAT'S STILL THE CASE.

LET ME JUST SAY ON INDIA THAT SOME MONTHS AGO WE INDICATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE BASIS FOR A POSSIBLE NEW AID PROGRAM WITH INDIA. WE WOULD LOOK ON SUCH TALKS AS AN OPPORTUNITY ALSO TO DISCUSS OTHER AREAS OF ECONOMIC

COOPERATION -- INCLUDING TRADE AND INVESTMENT, AS WELL AS SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. BUT WITH RESPECT TO WHEN THESE TALKS MIGHT TAKE PLACE, I HAVE NOTHING HERE TO INDICATE THAT A SCHEDULE HAS BEEN SET.

Q. WHAT KIND OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION? MAYBE METEOROLOGICAL? SATELLITES OR MEDIA?

A. WELL, I WOULD ASSUME THE BROAD RANGE OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS ENGAGED WITH A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. AND I WOULD NOT EXCLUDE COMMUNICATION SATELLITE OR ANYTHING OF THAT TECHNICAL NATURE. END QUOTE. RUSH

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